

Message Text

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ACTION SS-15

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SUBJ: TURKISH PRESS ON FOLLOW-ON TALKS IN ANKARA, " CARTER PLAN"

REF: STATE 41677 (DTG 162225Z FEB 78)

1. SUMMARY: TWO MAJOR TURKISH DAILIES REPORT FEBRUARY 17
THAT U.S.-TURKISH TALKS WILL BE HELD IN ANKARA FEBRUARY 22-23.
SENSATIONALIST GUNAYDIN HAS ANNOUNCED THAT PRESIDENT CARTER
PREPARED A FOUR-PART PLAN TO SOLVE PROBLEMS BETWEEN GREECE
AND TURKEY AND PREVENT THEIR DRIFT TO THE LEFT. USIS HAS
COORDINATED PRESS GUIDANCE WITH MFA. END SUMMARY.

2. BOTH MILLIYET AND CUMHURIYET FEBRUARY 17 REPORT
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ON UP-COMING US-TURKISH DISCUSSION S WHICH ARE
FOLLOW-ON TO VANCE-ECEVIT MEETING IN JANUARY. SENIOR
MILLIYET REPORTER NILUFER YALCIN WRITES THAT TALKS WILL
COMMENCE ON FEBRUARY 22 WITH A US DELEGATION UNDER
THE LEADERSHIP OF COUNSELOR NIMETZ AND A TURKISH
DELEGATION HEADED BY MFA SEC GEN ELEKDAG. HIGHLIGHTS OF
ARTICLE INCLUDE:

--IN TALKS BETWEEN MFA AND AMERICAN EMBASSY, IT HAS BEEN AGREED THAT DISCUSSIONS WILL NOT BE LIMITED TO LEVEL OF ASSISTANCE IN DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT (DCA) BUT ALSO WILL INCLUDE CONSIDERATION OF " NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN ECONOMIC, TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL FIELDS."

--AGENDA FOR THE MEETING NOT YET PREPARED AND TURKS HAVE NOT TABLED SUBJECTS THEY WISH TO DISCUSS.

--IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT TURKEY WILL NOT PUT FPRWARD "PREFERENCES OR WISHES" BUT "PROPOSALS FOR EXPLORING POSSIBILITIES" WHICH MAY, INTER ALIA, ASSIST TURKEY IN SOLVING ITS ECONOMIC PROBLEMS.

--THE SENDING OF SUCH A WELL-KNOWN AND HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIAL AS NIMETZ IS SEEN AS AN INDICATION OF THE SERIOUSNESS THE US ATTACHES TO ITS RELATIONS WITH TURKEY AND AS A SIGN THAT THE CARER ADMINISTRATION SEES AN ADVANTAGE IN CONSIDERING AT A HIGH LEVEL THE AID THAT MAY BE GIVEN.

3. THE CUMHURIEYT STORY, WHICH IS BASED ON AN ANKA NEWS SERVICE REPORT AND BURIED ON AN INSIDE PAGE, ALLEGES THE THE US TEAM WILL BE IN ANKARA FEBRUARY 22-26 AND ADDS:

--TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED WILL INCLUDE DEFENSE QUESTIONS, THE EMBARGO, AND PROBLEMS IN US-TURKISH RELATIONS.

--"AS IS KNOWN, THE GOVERNMENT (GOT) INDICATED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN TALKS WITH VANCE THAT THE TURKISH-AMERICAN DCA, WHICH IS STILL AWAITING CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL, HAS BECOME OUTDATED. THE GOVERNMENT HAS DEFENDED THE NECESSITY OF MAKING THE AGREEMENT CONFORM TO CURRENT CONDITIONS."

--"IN THE MEANTIME, IT HAS BEEN REQUESTED THAT THE MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO TURKEY WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE AGREEMENT BE AT LEAST DOBULED."

4. IN A PROMINENT STORY DATED "WASHINGTON (SPECIAL)", GUNAYDIN CLAIMS THAT PRESIDENT CARTER HAS PREPARED A FOUR-PART PLAN TO RESOLVE THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY. ELEMENTS OF THE PLAN ARE:

A. TO REACH A CYPRUS SOLUTION WITHIN TWO MONTHS;
B. TO PROVIDE ARMS TO TURKEY BY LIFTING THE EMBARGO;
C. TO FIND A CONCILIATORY SOLUTION IN THE AEGEAN; AND
D. TO PROVIDE MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO PREVENT THE LEFTWARD DRIFT OF THE PRESENT GOVERNMENTS. GUNAYDIN QUOTES DIPLOMATIC SOURCES AS SAYING THAT THE CARTER PLAN IS "A NATO DOCTRINE" AND HAS GOALS WHICH INCLUDE:

--SOLUTION OF THE CYPRUS PROBLEM TO PERMIT GREECE'S RETURN TO NATO, AND

--LIFTING THE EMBARGO BY THE END OF MARCH IN ORDER
TO PROVIDE PROMPT MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY, WHICH
IS VITAL TO THE SECURITY OF THE AEGEAN AND MEDITERRANEAN.
STORY CONCLUDES THAT DIPLOMATIC SOURCE SAID THE FEDERAL
REPUBLIC OF GERMANY WILL PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF CARTER'S PLAN.

5. IN A MEETING FEBRUARY 17 WITH MFA DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF INFOR-
MATION, USIS COORDINATED PRESS GUIDANCE FOR UPCOMING
VISIT ALONG LINES SUGGESTED PARA 7 REFTEL. TURKISH RADIO
MIDDAY NEWS BROADCAST REPORTED MFA HAD ANNOUNCED THAT
US-TURKISH BILATERAL TALKS WOULD BE HALD "IN COMING DAYS".

6. COMMENT: NILUFER YALCIN CALLED EMBASSY AND SAID THAT
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HER STORY WAS BASED ON INFORMATION MILLIYET
CORRESPONDENT MEHMET ALI BIRAND IN BRUSSELS RECEIVED FROM
WASHINGTON.
SPIERS

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